

the city and State, and destroying the prosperity of our commercial, mechanical and manufacturing interests. Not doubting that you concur with me in these sentiments, and will appreciate the sense of official duty from which I invite your co-operation, I have addressed you this letter, and ask, most respectfully, an immediate reply.

Very respectfully,

Your ob't. Ser'vt.,

T. WATKINS LIGON.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, CITY HALL,
Baltimore, Oct. 28, 1857

To His Excellency,

T. Watkins Ligon,

Governor of Maryland.

SIR:—I have had the honor to receive your letter, of the 27th inst., in which you say that, "representations from a large number of most respectable citizens, of the condition of things in this city added to my own convictions of my constitutional duty impose upon me the obligation respectfully to consult you, as Mayor of the city of Baltimore, as to what provision should be made by you to guarantee personal security, and the free exercise of suffrage by the legal voters at the approaching election." Your letter goes on to indicate duties which are incumbent upon us both. The constitutional sphere assigned to you as Governor of the State of Maryland, and to me as Mayor of the city of Baltimore, is believed to be sufficiently defined. While I should claim, by virtue of my commission, the privilege of the initiative in any demand which I might consider necessary to be made upon your Excellency for your aid and co-operation in preserving the peace of the city and the rights of its citizens. I do not object, at any time, to impart to you, or any other citizen, the fullest information in regard to matters connected with the government of the city, in which the public might feel an interest. It could not fail to excite my surprise, that in a letter inviting a consultation with me, your Excellency, after pronouncing summary judgment upon the inefficiency of the city government, should have thought proper to refer to the events of the municipal and Presidential elections of 1856, with which, as Mayor of the city, I had no official connection; and to impress upon me that you were "resolute in the determination to use your constitutional power to fulfill the guarantee that the citizen is entitled to good government." In your reference to the representations you have received from a large number of most respectable citizens, your Excellency would seem to have lost sight of the facts, that by the authority